[30th October 1931

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" That is to say, only those recommended by certain officers are considered ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" That depends on the discretion of the Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Department. "

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" If, in addition to the recommendations of officers, advertisement also is made, will it not result in securing more suitable men? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Not likely. "

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" Why were not applications invited ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Because it was not thought necessary. "

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" Why not ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" I have already answered that question. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" Who fixes the pay of these posts ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Government."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" Do the Government think Rs. 400 and 500 are necessary as initial pay ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Yes. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" Cannot Government get cheaper men by advertisement ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" I have answered that question. "

Forests

Appointment of the Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

11-45 a.m. * 244 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests is being made from the ranks of Deputy Conservators of Forests and not Deputy Collectors as before; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Chief Conservator of Forests has been objecting to the appointment of Indian officers to the post and if so, what is his objection?

A.—(*a*) Because an officer of the department with some years of District experience is found more useful as a Personal Assistant than a Deputy Collector.

(*b*) No.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that, by appointing a Deputy Conservator to be the Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests, they are incurring a higher cost than they would have incurred if they had appointed a Deputy Collector ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Government are decidedly of opinion that an officer of the department will make a far more efficient Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator than a Deputy Collector who knows nothing about the working of the department. "

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Am I to understand that the Government knew it only now ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Government learned this by experience. The first Personal Assistant was a Deputy Collector and, after the experience which the Government had, they adopted the present course."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the whole staff of the Conservator's Office is manned by non-forest service men ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."

Deputation and retirement of Mr. J. W. K. Wernham, late of the Indian Forest Service.

* 245 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the actual cost of deputation of Mr. J. W. K. Wernham, late of the Indian Forest Service of this Presidency;

(*b*) on his return from the deputation, whether he was able to do anything for the department as a result of the experience gained by him abroad;

(*c*) when he was deputed and when he retired on proportionate pension;

(*d*) when he applied for retirement, whether the Government did not ask him to refund the cost of his deputation; if not, why not;

(*e*) with reference to the deputation of two forest rangers to the Phillippines some time back, when they were deputed and what the cost of the deputation for each was;

(*f*) whether at the time of the deputation there was a specially appointed Logging Engineer on a salary of Rs. 1,500 and if so, why these rangers were deputed to the Phillippines for training in logging;

(*g*) what are these officers now doing; and

(*h*) who was responsible for their deputation?

A.—(*a*) The cost of the deputation was Rs. 25,384.

(*b*) On his return from the deputation, Mr. J. W. K. Wernham served as the Forest Utilization Officer in which post the experience gained in America was useful to him.